

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application : MASATOSHI UEDA, ET AL.
Application No. :
Filed : Herewith
For : FUEL REFORMER AND MANUFACTURING METHOD
OF THE SAME
Examiner :
Attorney's Docket : AK-376XX

Group Art Unit:

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By: _____
Charles L. Gagnebin III
Registration No. 25,467
Attorney for Applicant(s)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Kindly enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the
above-identified application:

In the Claims:

Please amend the Claims 5 and 6 to read as follows (a copy
of the amended claims showing the additions and deletions
appears at the end for the Examiner's convenience):

CLAIM 5. The fuel reformer of claim 1, wherein an average thickness of said Cr oxide layer is 5 to 100 μm .

CLAIM 6. The fuel reformer of claim 1, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.

Please add the following new claims 11-17:

CLAIM 11. The fuel reformer of claim 2, wherein an average thickness of said Cr oxide layer is 5 to 100 μm .

CLAIM 12. The fuel reformer of claim 3, wherein an average thickness of said Cr oxide layer is 5 to 100 μm .

CLAIM 13. The fuel reformer of claim 4, wherein an average thickness of said Cr oxide layer is 5 to 100 μm .

CLAIM 14. The fuel reformer of claim 2, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a

base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.

CLAIM 15. The fuel reformer of claim 3, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.

CLAIM 16. The fuel reformer of claim 4, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.

CLAIM 17. The fuel reformer of claim 5, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment puts the claims into proper form for examination. Note that claims 5 and 6 have been amended; new claims 11-17 have been added; and claims 1-4 and 7-10 remain unchanged. Kindly calculate the filing fee based on the amended claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

MASATOSHI UEDA, ET AL.

By: 
Charles L. Gagnebin III
Registration No. 25,467
Attorney for Applicant(s)

WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN, GAGNEBIN
& LEOVICI LLP
Ten Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109
Telephone: (617) 542-2290
Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

Date: 9-27-2

CLG/mc/267147-1
Enclosure

Red-lined claims for the Examiner's convenience:

CLAIM 5. The fuel reformer of ~~any of claim 1 to 4~~, wherein an average thickness of said Cr oxide layer is 5 to 100 μm .

CLAIM 6. The fuel reformer of claim ~~1 to 5~~, wherein a thin film having a Cr concentration higher than a Cr concentration of a base material is formed on a surface of steel material making the reformer, and thereafter a Cr oxide layer formed by heat treatment is formed thereon.